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ABSTRACT

A study was conducted in December 1994 at Miami-Dade Community College (M-DCC), in Florida, to determine the current educational status of Associate in Arts (AA) and Associate in Science (AS) students identified as leavers in 1991-92. Results showed that of 8,475 M-DCC leavers: (1) 36% were considered to be employed in the state since they could not be found at an educational institution or on workers' compensation rolls; (2) 21.5% had transferred to another educational institution; (3) of these transfers, 74% were enrolled at state universities, 13% were at Florida private four-year institutions, and another 13% were at state community colleges; (4) for students who left an AA program, 26% transferred, with 76% of these attending public universities; (5) for students who left an AS program, 8% transferred, with 72% of these attending state universities and 28% attending state community colleges; (6) 95% of the AA leavers who enrolled in the state university system were attending either Florida International University (FIU), Florida Atlantic University, University of Florida, or Florida State University, with 82% attending FIU; (7) the University of Miami, St. Thomas University, Barry University, and Nova University enrolled 88% of the AA leavers who went to private schools; and (8) 31% of the associate degree leavers transferring to a community college went to Broward Community College. (KP)

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MIAMI-DADE COMMUNITY COLLEGE-INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH

INFORMATION CAPSULE

I.C. No. 94-07C

December 1994

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Overview

This capsule focuses on Associate in Arts and Associate in Science "program enrollees" who were identified as "leavers" in 1991-92. It is the counterpart of the Information Capsule (I.C. No. 93-13C) entitled "Where Do Our Graduates Go?," and adds another dimension to leavers capsule I.C. No. 90-06C "What Happens to Program Enrollees Who Leave Miami-Dade Before Graduating?"

Overall results show that more than one in five leavers transferred within a year (actually Spring, Summer, and Opening Fall Terms) after leaving M-DCC. Of those transferees, 91% were A.A. leavers, with the remaining 9% A.S. leavers. Leavers were dispersed at seven state universities (74%), thirteen Florida private four-year institutions (13%), and twenty-two state community colleges (13%). Viewing these data from another vantage point, of all leavers who were in educational institutions, 87% (1,578/1,824) transferred to four-year colleges/universities. In short, it is obvious that many M-DCC leavers do go on to attend another higher education institution.

Findings

There were 8,475 M-DCC leavers in 1991-92. This figure includes a large number of leavers (n=3,055 or 36%) who could not be located at a Florida educational institution or on the workers compensation rolls (indicating employment in Florida). Table 1 shows that 6,436 leavers (76%) were in Associate in Arts programs and 2,039 (24%) were in Associate in Science programs.

Over one-fourth (26%) of A.A. leavers were found as transfers. Of the A.A. leavers who were continuing their education, 76% were attending public universities (1,269/1,665). On the whole, universities and four-year colleges prefer to accept lower division students either directly as first-time-in-college freshmen or after they have attained their Associate in Arts degree. Hence, acceptance by the university of community college transferees without an associate degree speaks to the quality of these leavers.

Associate in Science leavers were much less likely to be continuing their education. Eight percent had transferred. Of the A.S. leavers who continued their education, 72% of them were found in the State University System or in private Florida higher education institutions; the remaining 28% attended community colleges throughout the state.

THIS INFORMATION CAPSULE IS A BRIEF, COMPLETE REPORT

Specific Higher Education Institutions

Table 2 presents the 1991-1992 details on M-DCC associate degree program leavers (including enrollments concurrently in more than one higher education institution). There were transferees to seven Florida state universities and thirteen Florida private institutions. Looking at A.A. leavers, 82% (1,036) were attending Florida International University (FIU). The top four universities (Florida International University, Florida Atlantic University, University of Florida, and Florida State University) drew 95% of M-DCC Associate in Arts leavers who continued their education in the State University System. The most popular private schools chosen by 88% of the 195 A.A. leavers in private schools were the University of Miami, St. Thomas University, Barry University, and Nova University.

Of the twenty-two community colleges to which associate degree leavers transferred, a reciprocity appears to exist most between Broward Community College and M-DCC (see I.C. 88-02C, "Migration of Dade County Students to BCC"). Substantial enrollment cross-overs occur between these two institutions. Thirty-one percent of M-DCC leavers continuing education in the community colleges were found at Broward. Adding Santa Fe, Tallahassee, and Palm Beach to this group yields 64% of M-DCC leavers transferring to four Florida community colleges associated with some of the state's most competitive universities.

A Definitional Note

Program "enrollees" and "leavers" are state defined. An A.A. program enrollee has accumulated at least 24 college credits excluding ESL and college preparatory courses. An A.S. program enrollee has earned 15 college credits, with the same exceptions. "Leaver" is used in state of Florida reports to denote students in programs who have neither graduated nor re-enrolled at that institution within one year. Data on the subsequent transfer of these students to other institutions were captured during fourth quarter 1992. Base sources for data include files from the State University System, the Community College System, and from private universities receiving state tuition vouchers. This capsule gives duplicate continuing education statuses (e.g. a student who first enrolled in the SUS and then at a private college would be counted twice). However, bottom-line leaver frequencies and percents are unduplicated for comparison purposes.

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Table 1

1991-92 Associate Degree Leavers*

Continuing Education the Following Fall Term

in Florida Institutions of Higher Education

	Associate in Arts			Associate in Science			Total		
Type of Institution	Number	Percent of Continuing Education	Percent of Unduplicated Leavers	Number	Percent of Continuing Education	Percent of Unduplicated Leavers	Number	Percent of Continuing Education	Percent of Unduplicated Leavers
State University System	1,269	76.2%	19.7%	77	48.4%	3.8%	1,346	73.8%	15.9%
Private	195	11.7%	3.0%	37	23.3%	1.8%	232	12.7%	2.7%
Community Colleges	201	12.1%	3.1%	45	28.3%	2.2%	246	13.5%	2.9%
All Continuing Education**	1,665	100.0%	25.8%	159	100.0%	7.8%	1,824	100.0%	21.5%
Total Leavers	6,436		100.0%	2,039		100.0%	8,475		100.0%

*A.A. Leavers had at least 24 credits exclusive of ESL or College Preparatory courses.

*A.S. Leavers had at least 15 credits exclusive of ESL or College Preparatory courses.

**May be attending more than one higher education institution.

Table 2
1991-92 M-DCC Associate Degree Leavers
Continuing Education the Following Fall Term
By Institution Type

Institution	Degree: Associate in Arts Number	Associate in Arts Percent	Associate in Science Number	Associate in Science Percent	Total Number	Total Percent
Florida State University System (SUS)						
Florida International University	1,036	81.6%	60	77.9%	1,096	81.4%
Florida Atlantic University	79	6.2%	10	13.0%	89	6.6%
University of Florida	44	3.5%	1	1.3%	45	3.3%
Florida State University	42	3.3%	0	0.0%	42	3.1%
Florida A & M University	21	1.7%	6	7.8%	27	2.0%
University of South Florida	24	1.9%	0	0.0%	24	1.8%
University of Central Florida	23	1.8%	0	0.0%	23	1.7%
Total SUS	**1,269**	**100.0%**	**77**	**100.0%**	**1,346**	**100.0%**
Private Institutions						
University of Miami	67	34.4%	0	0.0%	67	28.9%
St. Thomas University	43	22.1%	15	40.5%	58	25.0%
Barry University	36	18.5%	5	13.5%	41	17.7%
Nova University	26	13.3%	5	13.5%	31	13.4%
Florida Memorial University	10	5.1%	5	13.5%	15	6.5%
Bethune Cookman College	5	2.6%	0	0.0%	5	2.2%
Embry Riddle University	0	0.0%	4	10.8%	4	1.7%
Stetson University	3	1.5%	0	0.0%	3	1.3%
Flagler College	1	0.5%	1	2.7%	2	0.9%
Palm Beach Atlantic College	2	1.0%	0	0.0%	2	0.9%
Florida Institute	0	0.0%	2	5.4%	2	0.9%
Jacksonville University	1	0.5%	0	0.0%	1	0.4%
St. Leo College	1	0.5%	0	0.0%	1	0.4%
Total Private	**195**	**100.0%**	**37**	**100.0%**	**232**	**100.0%**
Community Colleges						
Broward	57	28.4%	19	42.2%	76	30.9%
Santa Fe	33	16.4%	1	2.2%	34	13.8%
Tallahassee	21	10.4%	3	6.7%	24	9.8%
Palm Beach	14	7.0%	9	20.0%	23	9.3%
Hillsborough	13	6.5%	2	4.4%	15	6.1%
Valencia	11	5.5%	0	0.0%	11	4.5%
Brevard	8	4.0%	2	4.4%	10	4.1%
Daytona Beach	7	3.5%	0	0.0%	7	2.8%
Florida Keys	6	3.0%	0	0.0%	6	2.4%
Indian River	5	2.5%	1	2.2%	6	2.4%
Edison	5	2.5%	1	2.2%	6	2.4%
Polk	3	1.5%	2	4.4%	5	2.0%
Central Florida	3	1.5%	1	2.2%	4	1.6%
Seminole	2	1.0%	2	4.4%	4	1.6%
St. Petersburg	2	1.0%	2	4.4%	4	1.6%
Florida	3	1.5%	0	0.0%	3	1.2%
Okaloosa-Walton	2	1.0%	0	0.0%	2	0.8%
Pensacola	2	1.0%	0	0.0%	2	0.8%
Chipola	1	0.5%	0	0.0%	1	0.4%
Gulf Coast	1	0.5%	0	0.0%	1	0.4%
Manatee	1	0.5%	0	0.0%	1	0.4%
Pasco-Hernando	1	0.5%	0	0.0%	1	0.4%
Total Community Colleges	**201**	**100.0%**	**45**	**100.0%**	**246**	**100.0%**

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